



DAVID SANDERS, Ph.D.
Director

County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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(213) 351-5602

September 30, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District
YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District
DON KNABE
Fourth District
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

REQUEST TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE TO AGREEMENT NUMBER 73059 WITH THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve and instruct the Chair to sign the attached Amendment Number One (Amendment) to Agreement Number 73059 (Agreement) with the Community College Foundation (CCF), for the provision of Independent Living Program Services (Program Services) to eligible foster youth, to extend the Agreement for two years beginning October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005, and to coincide with a Federally-sponsored evaluation of foster youth programs pursuant to the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 (FCIA). The total cost of the Amendment is \$4,300,322, which will be funded with \$2,429,682 (56.5%) Federal and \$1,870,640 (43.5%) State funds. There is no net County cost. The annual cost of \$2,150,161 is included in the Department of Children and Family Services' (DCFS') Adopted Budget for FY 2003-04.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute future amendments to increase the contract amount up to 10% annually to cover any unanticipated increase in service effective the date of execution of the Amendment through September 30, 2005, provided that: (a) sufficient funds are allocated in DCFS' Budget; (b) approval of the amendment by County Counsel and the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) is obtained; and (c) the Director notifies your Board and the CAO in writing within 15 days from the date of execution of such amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The Program Services enable foster youth ages 16-21 to gain the requisite knowledge and skills to emancipate successfully from the foster care system. Youth attend skill-building sessions and receive individual instruction based on individual needs and functioning, preparing them for living independently upon emancipation.

The Program Services provided under the Agreement is one of four programs selected nationally for a federal mandated evaluation sponsored by the Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (ACF/DHHS). The Program Services was selected by the Chapin Hall Center for Children and Urban Strategies, Inc. (CHCC/USI) based on criteria that found them to be well established and unique in meeting the objectives of the FCIA. CHCC/USI selected the Program Services based on the length of time that the Program has been operational and the size and cultural diversity represented in the Program.

DCFS requested and was granted authorization from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to extend the Agreement, which expires September 30, 2003, for two years to accommodate the 18-month evaluation by the CHCC/USI under contract with the ACF/DHHS. The County will benefit from an evaluation of the Program Services by the CHCC/USI and will be in a better position to assist foster youth with appropriate services as a result of this study.

The evaluation, which begins September 2003, will determine the impact of Program Services funded under the FCIA Program. Outcomes of interest include increased educational attainment, higher employment rates and stability, greater interpersonal and relationship skills, reduced non-marital pregnancy and births, and reduced delinquency and crime rates.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the County Strategic Plan by increasing access to emancipation and post emancipation services (Goal #1-Service Excellence) to better prepare youth for self sufficiency (Goal #5 – Children and Families' well-being).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total cost of the Amendment is \$4,300,322, which will be funded with \$2,429,682 (56.5%) Federal and \$1,870,640 (43.5%) State funds. There is no net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONAL/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Since 1987, the County of Los Angeles has contracted with CCF for the provision of Program Services. CCF provides comprehensive and coordinated services for youth at their homes and at community colleges throughout Los Angeles County's eight Service Planning Areas.

On October 3, 2000, your Board approved this Agreement with CCF for three (3) years through September 30, 2003.

This Amendment becomes effective October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005. The Agreement has been amended to include updated contract provisions and new Board requirements that have occurred since execution of the original Agreement. The new Board requirements include the Community Business Enterprise Program, the Child Support Compliance Program, the Jury Service Program, the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, Limitation on County's Obligation Due to Non-Appropriation of Funds, Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Mandatory Requirement to Register on the County's WebVen, Child Abuse Prevention Reporting, Dispute Resolution Procedures and the health and human services preamble to the statement of work. The Agreement also includes the provision that states that the County has no obligation to pay for expenditures exceeding the maximum contract sum.

In the course of developing a new Statement of Work for the next solicitation process, DCFS will incorporate any findings of the study by CHCC/USI that will better define the contract deliverables, outcomes and performance measures, and enhance the provision of services to DCFS clients.

DCFS did not meet the Board's requirement for a timely filing. However, an exemption applies in that the Amendment will be funded with State and Federal funds. The late submission of this Board letter is due to delays in obtaining clarification from CDSS on State contracting regulations for purposes of preparing this Board letter. CCF is in compliance with all Board, Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel requirements.

This Board letter has been reviewed by County Counsel, and the Chief Administrative Office. The terms and conditions of the Amendment have been approved as to form by County Counsel.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A solicitation was not conducted for the extension of this Agreement. On May 2, 2003, DCFS requested approval from CDSS for a two-year extension of the Agreement, subject to your Board's approval, so that DCFS could participate in the national study. On May 28, 2003, CDSS approved DCFS' request for a two-year extension of the Agreement, based on Divisions 23-650.18, 23-621.11, and 23-621.14 of the CDSS Management and Office Procedures Manual (CDSS Manual), Chapter 23-600, Purchase of Service.

Division 23-650.18 allows contracts to be negotiated when unique circumstances exist that preclude formal advertising, but Division 23-650.2 requires the solicitation of proposals from as many sources as is reasonably practicable. The unique circumstances are that only well-established programs, like the Program Services being provided by CCF, are being evaluated by CHCC/USI. Introducing a new contractor could change the current design of the program and delivery of Program Services and result undesirably in the Program Services being dropped from the national study. It was determined by DCFS, and confirmed with CDSS, that CCF is the only reasonably practicable source. Therefore, proposals were not solicited from other sources.

DCFS has evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply to this Agreement.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Amendment will allow for the continuation of Program Services to eligible foster youth to assist them in building essential living skills and help them towards emancipation. This Amendment will also allow CHCC/USI to conduct an effective evaluation of the Program Services.

CONCLUSION

Upon execution by the Board of Supervisors, it is requested that the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board send an executed copy of the adopted Board Letter and Amendment Number One to:

1. Department of Children and Family Services
Contracts Administration
Attention: Walter Chan, Contracts Manager
425 Shatto Place, Room 205
Los Angeles, CA 90020
2. Office of the County Counsel
Attention: Rose Belda, Principal Deputy County Counsel
201 Centre Plaza Drive, Suite 1
Monterey Park, CA 91754

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3. Community College Foundation
Attention: Delia Johnson, Vice President
14156 Magnolia Blvd., Suite 101
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID SANDERS, Ph.D.
Director

DS:WC
RR:rr

Attachment (1)

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel